

Message Text

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SUBJ: UNESCO 19TH GC: US STATEMENT ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES RESOLUTION

1. FOLLOWING VERBATIM TEXT OF STATEMENT BY DR. ROBERT B. KAMM, CHAIRMAN, USDEL TO 19TH UNESCO GC, RELATING TO DR 19 C/PRG III/ DR 5, APPLICATION OF RESOLUTION 13 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AT ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION CONCERNING THE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES:

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND MY DEAR COLLEAGUES--

WHILE WE OF THE UNITED STATES APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE AND ARE STILL BEING MADE TO ARRIVE AT AN ACCEPTABLE CONCLUSION OF THE VEXING PROBLEM, WE MUST STATE CANDIDLY THAT WE CANNOT SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTLY WRITTEN. FIRST, WE CANNOT ACCEPT REFERENCE TO RESOLUTION 13.1 AS IT APPEARS IN PARAGRAPH 1. WE OPPOSED THIS RESOLUTION AT THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE, AND WE CONTINUE TO DO SO.

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ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO IMPROVE THE LANGUAGE OF PARAGRAPH IV, IN ITS ORIGINAL FORM IT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO US, AS IT ROUSES EMOTIONS THAT SHOULD BE CALMED, AND IT INTRODUCES WORDING THAT CAN ONLY DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD.

OUR PRINCIPAL OBJECTION, AND IT MUST STATE IT IN THE STRONGEST TERMS, IS THAT THE CONDEMNATION OF A MEMBER STATE IS A SERIOUS MATTER THAT SHOULD BE MADE ONLY AFTER AN EXHAUSTIVE AND IMPARTIAL EXAMINATION OF ALL THE RELEVANT FACTS, AN EXAMINATION CARRIED OUT IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF CALM DELIBERATION, DEVOID OF EMOTIONS, DEVOID OF ULTERIOR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES, AND UNDER REASONABLE SAFEGUARDS THAT WILL INSURE FAIR AND OBJECTIVE TREATMENT FOR ALL CONCERNED.

I SPEAK NOT SIMPLY IN RELATION TO THE ISSUE BEFORE US. I AM RESTATING A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF THE RULE OF LAW, AND OF THE TRADITION OF THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,

NO CONDEMNATION WITHOUT FAIR AND OBJECTIVE EXAMINATION. THIS PRINCIPLE APPLIES TO ALL ISSUES, AND ALL MEMBER STATES-- NOT JUST THE SPECIFIC ISSUE WITH WHICH WE ARE HERE SEIZED, NOT THE PARTICULAR STATE THAT IS HERE INVOLVED.

WHAT IS THE SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO THIS SPECIFIC ISSUE? THE SITUATION IS THAT THE RELEVANT FACTS HAVE NOT, AS YET, BEEN ASSEMBLED; HOWEVER, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL RECENTLY CONCLUDED AN AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL SOON WILL BE ABLE TO SEND HIS REPRESENTATIVES TO GATHER THE RELEVANT INFORMATION. WE WARMLY WELCOME THIS CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT, AND WE BELIEVE THAT THIS ORGANIZATION SHOULD WAIT UNTIL THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPRESENTATIVES HAVE MADE THEIR REPORT, AND THEN PROCEED TO EXAMINE THEIR FINDINGS, WHATEVER THEY MAY BE, IN AN APPROPRIATE ORGAN OF UNESCO. THIS COULD BE A FUTURE SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, A SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, OR AN AD HOC GROUP.

WE CANNOT AGREE WITH ANY USE OF THE WORD "JUDAIZATION". THIS WORD IS ABHORRENT TO US AND ITS PRESENCE, IN ANY FORM, IN THIS RESOLUTION WILL CERTAINLY PRODUCE A STORM IN MY COUNTRY AND IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, I AM SURE. WE CAN ASSURE YOU THAT, FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, USE OF THIS WORD WILL MAKE IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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THOSE OF US WHO WANT TO SUPPORT THE "SPIRIT OF NAIROBI". WE STRONGLY URGE THAT THIS WORD BE DELETED; AND WE SO PROPOSE.

AS THE PARAGRAPH EIGHT? WE CAN NOT IMAGINE THAT A UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE WOULD AGREE TO CONDEMN BEFORE THE FACTS ARE IN. THIS LANGUAGE IS ENTIRELY UNACCEPTABLE.

WE ALSO FEEL THAT PARAGRAPH TEN USES WORDS OF EMOTION, SUCH

AS "INTOLERABLE DEFIANCE;" AND WE HERE SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF OUR AUSTRALIAN COLLEAGUE TO HAVE THEM DELETED.

FINALLY, AS THE PARAGRAPH ELEVEN; OUR WELL KNOWN POSITION THAT MENTION OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION CANNOT BE AGREED TO BY THE UNITED STATES IS MAINTAINED; AND SO WE CANNOT SUPPORT PARAGRAPH ELEVEN AS IT IS NOW WRITTEN.

IT IS FOR THESE REASONS THAT WE OPPOSE ADOPTION OF D.R. 5, IN ITS PRESENT FORM,. WE URGENTLY APPEAL TO THIS GENERAL CONFERENCE TO HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS. WE URGENTLY APPEAL THAT THE "SPIRIT OF NAIROBI" BE NOT VIOLATED BY FORCING AN UNNEEDED CONFRONTATION, OR BY ADOPTING A RESOLUTION WHICH CAN ONLY CAUSE FURTHER DISSENSION AND DIVISION.

NOR CAN WE ACCEPT THE LANGUAGE OF PARAGRAPHS FOUR AND FIVE. WHETHER THERE IS ANY MERIT IN THESE ALLEGATIONS (AND THEY ARE NOTHING MORE THAN ALLEGATIONS AT THIS TIME) CANNOT BE ESTABLISHED UNTIL THERE HAS BEEN AN INVESTIGATION OF THE FACTS*

MY GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACCEPT ANY RECONFIRMATION OF RESOLUTION 13.1 OF THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE. WE REGARDED THAT RESOLUTION AS IMPROPER AND UNACCEPTABLE? AND EVEN CONTRARY TO THE UNESCO CONSTITUTION, AND WE VOTED AGAINST IT. WE CONTINUE TO REGARD IT AS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE? AND CANNOT AGREE TO ANY REFERENCE TO IT.

LIKewise, AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED? WE HAVE CONSIDERABLE OBJECTIONS TO PARAGRAPH ELEVEN AS IT NOW STANDS. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL SHOULD HAVE FULL FREEDOM TO DECIDE FROM WHICH SOURCES IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR HIM TO GATHER INFORMATION. THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE ENDED AFTER THE PHRASE "...OBTAINING AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE..."

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EVERY DELEGATE IN THIS ROOM SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IF HE SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE OF CONDEMNATION WITHOUT EXAMINATION -- CONVICTION WITHOUT TRIAL--HE IS HELPING TO ESTABLISH A PRINCIPLE THAT MAY SOMEDAY BE USED AGAINST HIS OWN GOVERNMENT* IS THAT THE KIND OF TREATMENT TO WHICH YOU WISH TO SUBJECT YOUR GOVERNMENT?

IT WILL DO LASTING HARM TO UNESCO IF THIS SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE ACTS ON A BASIS OF EMOTION AND WITHOUT CAREFULLY DETERMINED FACTS TO CONDEMN ISRAEL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, AS THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA REMINDED US MOMENTS AGO, THIS IS NOT THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THIS IS UNESCO.

IN CONCLUSION, MR. CHAIRMAN, WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN

EARNEST APPEAL TO THE DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES ASSEMBLED HERE
TO REFLECT FURTHER AND NOT TO PRESS FOR THE LANGUAGE OF THE
PRESENT DRAFT RESOLUTION

LET US MAKE AN EXTRA EFFORT, THROUGH FURTHER CONSULTATIONS,
TO ARRIVE AT A RESOLUTION ON THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT MATTER
WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF US HERE ASSEMBLED IN THIS
HISTORIC CONFERENCE THAT IS BEING HELD ON THE CONTINENT THAT
SYMBOLIZES TO ALL OF US A YEARNING FOR PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING.

THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN.
MARSHALL

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